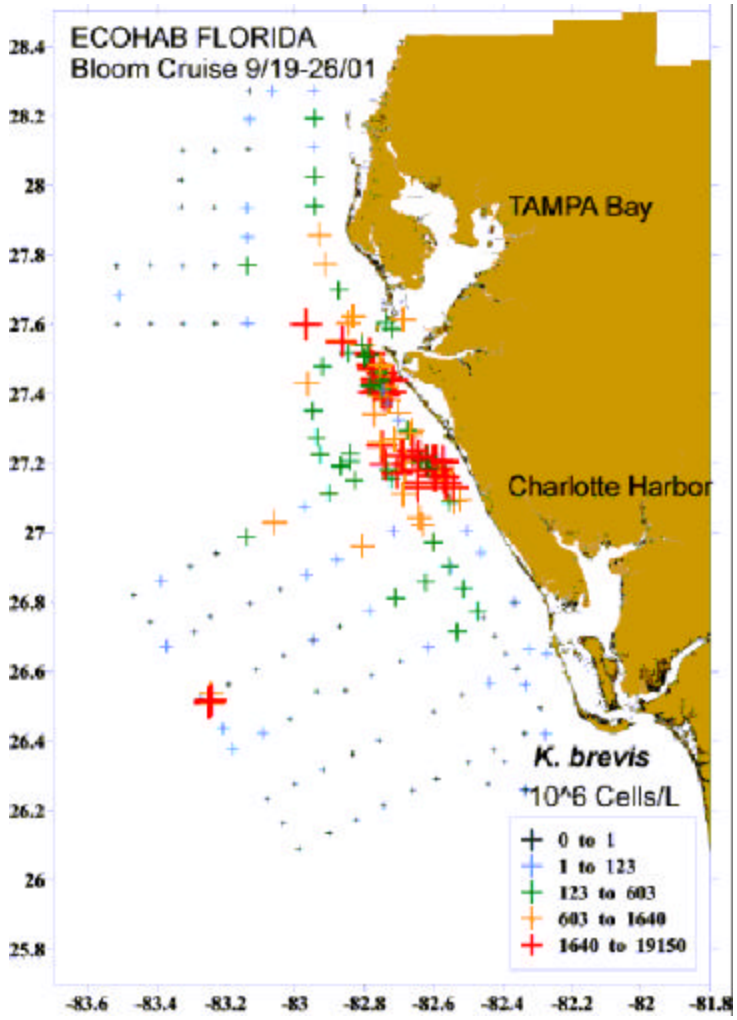
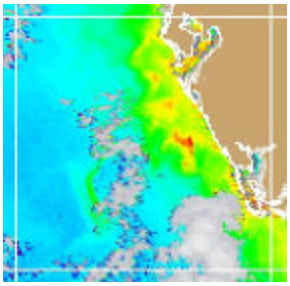
ECOHAB Florida Bloom Cruise 9/20-26/01



The first "bloom" cruise for the ECOHAB Florida project 2001 season was successful in locating and sampling high density blooms, thanks i part to the GOM HAB bulletin produced by CCMA ir collaboration with CSC.

CCFHRB completed preliminary experiment to test the usefulness of a lipophyllic polystrip to adsorb brevetoxins. This technology has been usec successfully by environmental toxicologists to integrate PCB concentrations in a flow field or at fixed locations. For the brevetoxin study, polystrips were placed in a flow through chamber on the deck the *SUNCOASTER* and *Karenia brevis* (= *G. breve*) cell concentrations and toxin samples were monitored at each station over the course of the cruise. The *K. brevis* cell distribution map (attached shows concentrations >19 million cells/L. Note the corresponding high chlorophyll patch off shore in the GOM HAB bulletin from 9/19/01 (below).



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Once the uptake rate kinetics are established the polystrips can be used as integrator for brevetoxin exposure at fixed locations in the wate column or in sediments or placed in flow through chambers onboard research vessels.

This work was done in collaboration with NC State Dept. Toxicology, Mote Marine Laboratory and the Florida Institute of Marine Science. (Contact Pat Tester, CCFHRB; Rick Stumpf, CCMA).